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**SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY TO HOST
ALEXANDER HAMILTON EXHIBIT**

NEW YORK, NY (June 11, 2007) – He is one of America's most visionary, yet underappreciated founding fathers. Alexander Hamilton is with us every day, not only on the \$10 bill, but also in the republic's most vital institutions. On July 16th, the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History will bring Alexander Hamilton to San Diego in the traveling exhibition, "Alexander Hamilton: The Man Who Made Modern America," on display at the San Diego Public Library through August 13th.

Funded in part through a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and based on the New York Historical Society exhibition of the same name, the exhibition examines Hamilton's important role in American history. A visionary economist and statesman, he advocated the ratification of the Constitution in his *Federalist Papers*, oversaw the adoption of a national currency, and recognized the importance of trade and commerce in building a strong nation. Hamilton was killed at the age of 47 in a duel with Vice President Aaron Burr. "Americans of the 21st century may admire Hamilton more than any generation since the founders themselves," said James G. Basker, President of the Gilder Lehrman Institute. "So much about him is attractive to us. He was an immigrant from the Caribbean, a disadvantaged orphan who became a war hero, a self-made man who rose to become a framer of the Constitution and architect of the American financial system."

Alexander Hamilton, a film produced by the American Experience, will be shown on Sunday, July 29, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. in the Central Library 3rd Floor Auditorium. Based on Hamilton's diaries and other writings, the film tells the story of the man who laid the groundwork for the nation's modern economy.

For more information on the traveling exhibition "Alexander Hamilton: The Man Who Made Modern America," or the American Experience film *Alexander Hamilton*, contact the San Diego Central Library at (619) 236-5800.

The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History was founded in 1994. The Institute promotes the study and love of American History among students, scholars, and the general public. It helps create history-centered schools and academic research centers, organizes seminars and enrichment programs for educators, partners with school districts to implement Teaching American History grants, and produces print and electronic publications, and traveling exhibitions. The Institute also sponsors the Lincoln, Frederick Douglass, and George Washington Book Prizes, and offers fellowships for scholarly research. For more information, visit the Institute's website at www.gilderlehrman.org.

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